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*Bigg*  
Claim 7 (amended). Device according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the connecting section [(3a, 3b; 13a, 13b)] is formed by two flexible, support-like elements. *a.b.*

*a.b.*  
Claim 8 (amended). Device according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the connecting section [(3a, 3b; 13a, 13b)] has connecting devices [(15a, 15b)], which permit a releasable connection of parts of connecting sections to one another (and/or a releasable connection to the head-support element [(1a, 1b; 11a, 11b)] and/or to the weight element [(2)]). *a.b. not shown*

*a.b.*  
Claim 9 (amended). Device according to [one of the preceding claims] claim 1, characterized in that the effective dimensions of the connecting section [(3a, 3b; 13a, 13b)] can be varied by means of an adjustment mechanism or variable connection means. *a.b.*

Remarks:

The preliminary amendment is being filed in an effort to present an application in proper U.S. format for examination.

An early action on the merits of the claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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October 29, 1997

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